

Message Text

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43

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 NEA-14 DPW-01 EUR-25 AID-20 DRC-01 /151 W

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R 231205Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6174

INFO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 13688

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS

SUBJECT: CAMBODIAN SUPPORT AND THE PARIS/VIETNAM PEACE AGREEMENT

1. GENERAL KRAINGSAK HAS RAISED WITH THE EMBASSY A QUESTION AS TO WHETHER THE PROVISION OF US MILITARY SUPPLIES AND AMMUNITION TO SUPPORT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KHMER REPUBLIC IS CONSISTENT WITH THE PARIS AGREEMENT TO END THE WAR IN VIETNAM OR OTHER INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS. HE NOTED THAT HE WAS AWARE OF THE IMPORTANCE TO THE GKR OF THE SUPPLIES WHICH ARE HANDLED THROUGH THAILAND, BUT SAID THE ROYAL THAI GOVERNMENT MUST BE SENSITIVE TO DOMESTIC CRITICISM IN THAILAND.

2. EMBOFF RESPONDED INFORMALLY THAT OUR PROGRAM TO SUPPORT THE GKR, INCLUDING THE SUPPORT PROVIDED FROM THAILAND, HAD BEEN CAREFULLY REVIEWED BY THE US GOVERNMENT TO ENSURE THAT OUR ACTIVITIES HERE WERE CONSISTENT WITH OUR INTERNATIONAL UNDERTAKINGS AS WELL AS OUR DOMESTIC LEGISLATION.

3. WE BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO PROVIDE GENERAL KRAINGSAK WITH AN UNCLASSIFIED STATEMENT CLARIFYING THE LEGALITY OF OUR CONTINUING CAMBODIAN SUPPORT FOR HIS USE WITHIN THE RTG AND IN RESPONDING TO QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS AND STUDENTS OR CHARGES WHICH
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MAY AREISE DURING THE COMING POLITICAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN. FOR

EXAMPLE, OUR CRITICS MIGHT WELL CLAIM THAT OUR MILITARY AID TO CAMBODIA VIOLATES ARTICLE 20B OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT CALLING ON FOREIGN COUNTRIES TO REFRAIN FROM RE-INTRODUCING INTO CAMBODIA AND LAOS "ARMAMENTS, MUNITIONS AND WARE MATERIAL"

4. COMMENT: ELEMENTS WITHIN THE RTG UNSYMPATHETIC WITH US MILITARY ACTIVITIES IN THAILAND MAY WELL TARGET CAMBODIA SUPPORT AS THE NEXT SENSITIVE AREA TO TACKLE AS GENERALLY FRIENDLY A PERSON AS SENI PROMOTE HE'S PUBLICLY STATED THAT US SUPPORT FROM THAILAND FOR CAMBODIA SHOULD BE ENDED (BANGKOK 13678). THE ISSUE IS ALSO BEING KEPT ALIVE BY THE PRESS AS A RESULT OF THE RECENT AMMUNITION LOSSES IN TRANSIT, AND THEIR CONTINUED INTEREST IN GETTING FULL DETAILS ON AIR AND SEA LIFT OF AMMUNITION AND OTHER SUPPLIES OUT OF UTAPAO. IT IS THEREFORE PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT TO PROVIDE AS GOOD ARGUMENTATION AS POSSIBLE TO OUR FRIENDS IN SUPREME COMMAND AND ELSEWHERE WHILE WE CONTINUE TO UTILIZE EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO REINFORCE THEIR RECOGNITION THAT THE FATE OF THE GKR IS OF VITAL IMPORTANCE TO THAI NATIONAL SECURITY.
KINTNER

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